

Message Text

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14

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EB-07 CU-02 /024 W

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R 271500Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0103

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DEPARTMENT PASS OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, WZ

SUBJECT: VISIT OF OPIC OFFICER TODD PARNELL

1. TODD PARNELL, OPIC INVESTMENT OFFICER FOR BLS COUNTRIES, DEPARTED MBABANE AUGUST 24 AFTER FIVE DAYS OF COUNTRY FAMILIARIZATION (INCLUDING TOURS OF USUTU PULP COMPANY AND SOUTHERN SWAZILAND AGRICULTURAL FAIR) AND DISCUSSIONS WITH HEADS OF NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND GOS ECONOMIC PLANNING OFFICE AND WITH OPIC-CONCERNED OFFICIALS IN DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, MINES AND TOURISM.

2. IN DISCUSSIONS AT LATTER MINISTRY, PARNELL INFORMED OFFICIALS THAT OPIC WOULD WELCOME TALKS WITH TWO-MEMBER INVESTMENT-ORIENTED TEAM WHICH EMBASSY HAS INVITED GOS NOMINATE FOR CU-SPONSORED THIRTY-DAY VISIT IN US.

3. PARNELL ALSO PARTICIPATED IN AUGUST 23 INAUGURATION OF EMBASSY'S COMMERCE-SUPPORTED CATALOG SHOW, WHERE HE SPOKE BRIEFLY ON SCOPE OF OPIC SERVICES.

AUDIENCE INCLUDED MINISTERS AND KEY OFFICIALS FROM SELECTED GOS AGENCIES AND PRIVATE FIRMS. EMBASSY'S PRESS RELEASE ON CATALOG SHOW, BROADCAST NEXT DAY BY SWAZI RADIO, GAVE FURTHER EXPOSURE TO OPIC

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AND PARNELL PRESENCE.

4. VISIT WAS EFFECTIVE IN ALERTING GOS TO CONTINUED
USG INTEREST IN PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL
RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND SWAZILAND. RECOMMEND OPIC
CONSIDER FOLLOW-UP TRIP BY PARNELL OR OTHER OFFICER
WITHIN NEXT EIGHT TO TWELVE MONTHS AT LATEST.

DECON ON RECEIPT
WACHOB

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Message Attributes

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